

**Claims**

**What is claimed is:**

1. A method for integrating security and user account data in a reporting system with at least one remote repository, comprising the steps of:
  - 5 enabling a user to submit user credential input to a reporting system;
  - identifying an authentication process;
  - forwarding the user credential input to a server; and
  - enabling the server to apply the authentication process to authenticate the user against a remote repository for verifying the user credential input.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of importing user information from the remote repository.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the authentication process comprises Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the authentication process comprises an operating system authentication.
5. The method of claim 2 further comprising a step of enabling the server to synchronize user account data with the user information from the remote repository.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the user is associated with a group of users wherein group information from the remote repository is imported.  
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7. The method of claim 2 wherein the user information comprises at least one or user permissions, privileges and access rights associated with the user.

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8. A system for integrating security and user account data in a reporting system with at least one remote repository, comprising:
- an input for enabling a user to submit user credential input to a reporting system;
  - an identification module for identifying an authentication process;
  - 5 a forwarding module for forwarding the user credential input to a server; and
  - a server for applying the authentication process to authenticate the user against a remote repository for verifying the user credential input.
9. The system of claim 8 further comprising an import module for importing user information from the remote repository.
10. The system of claim 8 wherein the authentication process comprises Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.
11. The system of claim 8 wherein the authentication process comprises an operating system authentication.
12. The system of claim 9 wherein the server synchronizes user account data with the user information from the remote repository.
13. The system of claim 8 wherein the user is associated with a group of users wherein group information from the remote repository is imported.
14. The system of claim 9 wherein the user information comprises at least one or user permissions, privileges and access rights associated with the user.
- 20 15. A processor-readable medium comprising code for execution by a processor to integrate security and user account data in a reporting system with at least one remote repository, the medium comprising:

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code for causing a processor to enable a user to submit user credential input to a reporting system;

code for causing a processor to identify an authentication process;

code for causing a processor to forward the user credential input to a server; and

5 code for causing a processor to enable the server to apply the authentication process to authenticate the user against a remote repository for verifying the user credential input.

16. The medium of claim 15 further comprising code for causing a processor to import user information from the remote repository.
17. The medium of claim 15 wherein the authentication process comprises at least one of Lightweight Directory Access Protocol and operating system authentication.
18. The medium of claim 16 further comprising code for causing a processor to enable the server to synchronize user account data with the user information from the remote repository.
19. The medium of claim 15 wherein the user is associated with a group of users wherein group information from the remote repository is imported.
20. The medium of claim 16 wherein the user information comprises at least one or user permissions, privileges and access rights associated with the user.

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